Attorney's Docket No.23-0692 Client's Docket No. 16155

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	E
Re Patent Application of)
HENRY EARL FINLEY)
Serial No.:)
Filed:)
For: EAR HUGGERS)
Examiner:)
Group Art Unit:)
Attorney: Ivar M. Kaardal)
Deposit Account No. 11-0020)

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

This statement is filed under the provisions of Rule 1.56 and the detailing of Rules 1.97 and 1.98.

With regards to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, <u>no</u> <u>fee is due</u> for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.



Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested.

Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the

Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being

considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next

official communication.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 27, 2004

Ivar M. Kaardal (Reg. No. 29,812) KAARDAL & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 3500 S. First Ave., Circle, Suite 250 Sioux Falls, SD 57105 (605)336-9446 FAX (605)336-1931 e-mail patent@kaardal.com

Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with proper postage as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexadria, VA 22313-1450, on this 27th day of February, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

February 27, 2004

Application Number:

Filing Date:

First Named Inventor:

HENRY EARL FINLEY

Group Art Unit: Examiner Name:

Attorney Docket Number:

23-0692

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner	Cite	U.S. Patent DocumentName of Patentee or Applicant Date of Publication of Pages, Columns, Lines, Where		
Initials	No.	Number of Cited Documents	Cited Documents	Relevant Passages or Figures
	1	337,740	Rowray	July 27, 1993
	2	4,282,721	Roach et al.	August 11, 1981
	3	4,993,240	Pounder	February 19, 1991

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner	Cite	U.S. Patent DocumentNam	e of Patentee or Applicant Dat	te of Publication of Pages, Columns, I	ines, Where
Initials	No.	Office Number	of Cited Documents	s Cited Documen	ts Relevant Passages or Figures

NONE

<u>OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS</u>

Initials No. volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			
ı	NONE		
Examiner Sig	nature:	Date Considered:	

Sheet 1 of 1